

gans still rang in their ears, one frequently heard being, "You cannot make a man sober by Act of Parliament." The answer of the Temperance party to that, one they had at the beginning, and was still unchanged, because it could not be improved upon, was, "Perhaps you cannot make a man sober by Act of Parliament, but you can make it difficult, aye, impossible, for him to get drunk." (Applause.) Even the most prejudiced would admit that when the wine is in the wit was out. The world to-day suffered, she thought, more than from any other source, from these croakers, the pessimists, the warmongers, and the scaremongers. These miserable, carping, unhappy creatures were always getting at someone, and to-day the youth of the country was one of their chief targets. She wanted to take up the cudgels on behalf of youth. To youth she would say there was nothing so steadying to life as devotion and service to a great cause. They required youth's energy and driving force to help them to sweep a blot from civilisation and from their land. That great audience must feel that the need was great, for the vineyard was very large, and the labourers all too few. (Applause.)

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#### WOMEN SMOKERS.

Dr. Saleeby, of Great Britain, the world's foremost eugenist, says, "When women smoke as freely as men, God help the children, for they'll be past all human help."

Dr. C. L. Barker, of U.S.A., told the American Association for medico-physical research, "that 60 per cent. of all babies born from cigarette smoking mothers die before they reach the age of two, due primarily to nicotine poisoning."

**"Do not sin against the Child."**

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#### WOMEN AS FILM CENSORS.

South Africa has not yet enfranchised its women, but it has four women on its Board of Censorship for Picture Films. One of the first was Miss Solomon, a Vice-President of the World's W.C.T.U.

We need women in our Dominion as Film Censors, and also the Censor should mark specially films suitable for children.

#### WHAT OF THE NEW YEAR.

##### A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT.

Dear Sisters,

Again the year draws to a close. It will be memorable for us in one respect at least. For the first time in the history of our Movement in this country, the House of Representatives has passed legislation, giving the people of New Zealand a fair and unhampered opportunity of testing the strength of public opinion for or against the Liquor Traffic.

And once again have the representatives of the people been frustrated in their purpose by the Upper House, members of which have no mandate whatever from the citizens of this Dominion. This is a situation which cannot much longer be tolerated by people who are in earnest on questions of social importance, and the moral well-being of the community.

On the other hand, we cannot too strongly express our appreciation of the magnificent stand taken by our supporters in the Lower House. The splendid way in which they have held to their election pledges, not only in the letter, but in the spirit as well, has been an inspiration to the Temperance forces throughout the Dominion, and we can but thank them and express the hope that their splendid organisation and very determined stand will yet bear fruit even in this Parliament.

In all probability, however, we shall have to face the 1928 poll under the old conditions of a three-issue ballot paper. Why not face it? and with a good heart too. If Parliament is any reflection of the change of opinion in the country during the past few years, surely we have cause for great encouragement and hope for the future.

And in spite of any handicap, let us go forth and gather up our voters, make new converts and strengthen the weak and wavering ones—win them over from State Control by careful education on this falacious heresy—go into every corner of the Dominion and bring them all into our fold. Bring them and keep them; so shall we win in the battle of the Lord's by a majority that no man can gainsay, and no Government can defy in its administration.

If we can but win on the three-

issues, then our position would be beyond cavil, and enforcement would be easy.

Again and yet again we must see that our next Parliament is as true to us as this one has been, and with an even bigger majority of the friends of our cause. Let us realise the power of our vote and use it as we know it should be used. May we all ponder and pray over these matters during the recess of Xmas and New Year, then come together again for a strenuous campaign year in 1928.

Come with minds and hearts full and glowing with a consecration to our cause, with a love for God and humanity, that will overcome every stumbling-block that stands across the road to victory. Let 1928 be a year of definite, devoted and joyous service for this our country, the land we all love, and for its children who are so dear to all of us.

May the season's richest blessings abide with every one of you, and may the New Year bring you strength and vision for the work that lies before you in the year of our Lord, 1928.

ELIZABETH B. TAYLOR,

Dominion President.

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#### WHAT SHALL WE GIVE?

God so loved that He gave.

It was the close of a large Missionary meeting, and the need had been eloquently stressed for more money and more workers. The plates were passing round the large audience. A little boy had been thrilled by the speaker's story, and he whispered low to the collector, "Put your plate upon the floor." The boy stepped on the plate saying, "I'm going to give myself."

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#### AMERICA WILL NOT GO BACK.

Senator Willis, of Florida, U.S.A., says:—Snow will be ninety feet deep in Florida, and Porto Rico will have more icebergs than Spitzbergen before the eighteenth amendment will be repealed.

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"Doctor," said a gentleman to his pastor, "how can I best train up my boy in the way he should go?" "By going that way yourself," blandly replied the pastor.